

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Page 1

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/16/2016

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, June 16, 2016 in the Administration Building. School Committee Chair Kate Brody called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, Mrs. Clancy, Mr. Shea, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon, and Mr. Tarro. Absent was Mr. Guida.

Mrs. Brody introduced School Committee members present at the meeting: Dr. Robert Shea, Mrs. Anna Clancy, and Mr. John Alessandro, and Student Representative Mr. Eli Shea. Mr. Patrick Guida was absent. Mrs. Brody also introduced the Administration and Central Office Staff present: Superintendent Michael Messore, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Paula Dillon, Director of Administration and Finance Ronald Tarro, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Elizabeth Levesque.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Eli Shea led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the District:

Graduation exercises for the Barrington High School Class of 2016 were held on June 5, 2016.

Three Barrington Middle School 7th Grade students were winners in the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 72 Americanism Essay Contest: First Place to George Promades, Second Place to Sean Imbusch, and Third Place to Ryan Rodrigues.

Sowams School and Barrington Middle School received honors at a ceremony to celebrate Rhode Island Commended Schools on June 14, 2016.

The School Committee recognized Mrs. Elizabeth Levesque, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, for her contributions to the District in that role and congratulated her in her new role at Hampden Meadows School as Office Clerk beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year.

Mr. Alessandro thanked Mr. James Callahan, Sowams School Principal, for the recent sendoff ceremony for Grade 3 students.

BPS Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Mr. Messore introduced Barrington Middle School (BMS) Science faculty members, Mr. Peter McFarland and Mr. Matthew Allder, who provided a BMS Science status report that included progress on the development of the curriculum based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) beginning in 2014. Questions from the Committee included change in the level of student engagement and staff collaboration.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Messore introduced Mr. Eli Shea as the 2016-2017 Student Representative to the School Committee. Mr.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Page 2

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/16/2016

Joseph Hurley, Barrington High School (BHS) Principal, formally congratulated Mr. Shea and provided the Committee with an overview of the selection process. Mr. Shea, a rising BHS Senior, expressed his excitement and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Student Representative to the School Committee.

Mr. Messore introduced the building administrators present at the meeting who provided the Committee with a Student Achievement Data Report summary update, the third and final report for the current academic year. Mrs. Dillon provided an overview of the curriculum based measures and the shift in data. Present were Barrington High School Principal Joseph Hurley, Hampden Meadows School Principal Tracey McGee, Sowams School Principal James Callahan, Primrose Hill School Principal Patricia Tolento, and Nayatt School Principal Tracey Whitehead. Mrs. Dillon provided the update for Barrington Middle School (BMS) in the absence of BMS Principal Andrew Anderson, who was hosting the BMS Bridge Ceremony. Every building administrator's presentation included goals for each grade level relative to English Language Arts, Mathematics, Writing, and Literacy, social emotional goals, action steps, and how the data is analyzed and used to make decisions. Discussion and questions from the Committee included measurement of proficiency, Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) performance data, goal modules, focus on writing in Grade 4, health and safety lessons, use of TenMarks for Math practice, and strategies for collaboration and next steps.

Mr. Hurley provided an update on next steps on the use of the data resulting from the Barrington High School (BHS) Stanford University Challenge Success Survey. Results from the survey were shared at the May 19, 2016 School Committee meeting. The BHS School Improvement Team and BHS administration continue to analyze the data to help guide school community goals. Mr. Hurley thanked the BAY Team who provided the funding for the survey and discussed the possibility of including the cost of the survey in future school operating budgets. Discussion ensued on data driven student forums, setting concrete action steps in place in the near future, student stress, and redefining expectations.

General Public Discussion and Information

Mrs. Heather Crosby, of 293 Rumstick Road, expressed concern for the safety of her children in school, the bullying reporting process, and what she feels is a lack in protocol, policy, and defined set of consequences.

Mrs. Pamela Lauria, of 56 Martin Avenue, asked for consideration of a parent forum and an actionable plan in place before the next academic year, in response to the Barrington High School Stanford University Challenge Success Survey.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Tarro reported that the Building Committee is scheduled to meet next on June 27, 2016 to approve the conceptual plans for the Barrington Middle School (BMS) building project. Next steps include the introduction of schematic design plans and identifying efficiencies for possible further reductions in the overall cost of the project. Mr. Tarro also reported on the recent site visit by Mr. Tarro and Messore to the Freetown-Lakeville Middle School in Massachusetts; the school size is approximately 150,000 square feet with an enrollment of 800 students. Discussion ensued relative to concern for reaching quorums at Building Committee meetings and the possibility of asking members who have been unable to attend meetings in the past to serve in an advisory capacity, the Committee consensus was to have the Building Committee Co-Chairs consult with members regarding the option of advisory capacity status. All future Building Committee

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Page 3

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/16/2016

meetings will be posted as joint School Committee meetings. Mrs. Brody reported that the enabling legislation for the BMS bond referendum was approved by House floor vote and by the Senate Finance Committee, and that the budget is scheduled for Senate floor vote on June 17, 2016.

Mr. Tarro provided an update on the FY2016-2017 school budget including plans to continue to monitor enrollment and staffing throughout the summer, the potential for additional State Aid Categorical Funds based on the pending approval of the State budget by the General Assembly, and the possibility of a change in the timeline for hiring that may accommodate the \$64,800 gap in the budget.

Mr. Messore provided a finalized committee list for the School Start Times (SST) Ad Hoc Advisory Committee including the announcement of Dr. Suzanne Costa, Barrington High School Library Media Specialist and K-12 Library Department Head, as Project Manager. Mr. Messore outlined the blind scoring process used for scoring all applicant interest forms. Dr. Shea and Mrs. Clancy volunteered to serve as School Committee representatives on the SST Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, with the first meeting targeted for early July. Mr. Alessandro expressed frustration with the process.

Mr. Messore informed the Committee that on June 17, 2016 a District wide survey will be distributed to all employees, parents, and Barrington High School students. The goal of the survey is to help guide strategic goal planning during the summer months. Mr. Messore and Mrs. Dillon reported on their recent meeting with Mr. James Marini, former Superintendent of Schools in Newton, Massachusetts and consultant with the New Superintendent Induction Program, Massachusetts District Governance Project. Mr. Messore also provided an overview of all District wide communication for the 2015-2016 academic year that included 11 forums, 39 communications from the Superintendent's office, and the administration of six surveys.

Old Business from School Committee

Mrs. Brody expressed appreciation on behalf of the Committee for Dr. Shea's leadership with the Health and Wellness Committee, and led the Committee discussion on the future leadership of that committee beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year. Following discussion,

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to appoint Mr. John Alessandro as Chair of the Health and Wellness Committee. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore announced the resignations of Mr. Ralph Caruso Jr., Barrington High School Varsity Baseball Head Coach, Mr. Brian DeLaire, Barrington High School Robotics Club Advisor, Ms. Karen Fletcher, Barrington Middle School Science Teacher, Mr. Dennis Perry, Barrington High School Eagles Athletic Club Advisor, and Mr. Gregory Simkins, Barrington Middle School English Teacher.

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the request for home schooling for the named individual. The student name was not identified publicly. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Page 4

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/16/2016

Following discussion on the FY17 food service renewal contract, and review of the reference information shared by Mr. Tarro prior to the meeting,

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the FY17 food service renewal contract with Chartwells, year three of a five-year contract. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the monthly expenditures for May in the amount of \$3,460,029.07.

Mr. Alessandro asked Mr. Tarro to identify big ticket items for review in the budget. Mr. Tarro outlined several items including the last payroll for the academic year and closing out purchase orders. Mr. Tarro noted that the budget year will end in the black.

The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Mr. Tarro reported that two sealed bid proposals were received for removal of underground storage tanks for Hampden Meadows and Nayatt schools. Information was provided to the Committee for its reference prior to the meeting. It was recommended by the Administration to award the bid to the lowest, qualified, evaluated bidder, Gill Services, Inc., of Warwick, Rhode Island, for an amount not to exceed \$23,950.00.

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to award the bid for removal of underground storage tanks to the lowest, qualified, evaluated bidder, Gill Services, Inc. of Warwick, Rhode Island, for an amount not to exceed \$23,950.00. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Mr. Messore provided a status report on the search for the new Director of Pupil Personnel Services. The Search Committee, including faculty and Administration members with expertise in Special Education, has identified two candidates for an interview from the pool of nine applicants; the interviews will be conducted next week.

New Business from School Committee

The School Committee policy on Homework was presented and read aloud by the Committee for a first reading. Mrs. Dillon reported on the extensive research conducted since Fall, 2015 by the Homework Committee, composed of 18 K-12 district educators and administrators representing teachers from all grades in all schools, for development of the draft policy. Mrs. Dillon noted that the Homework Committee will continue its work to develop roll out plans for buildings, teachers and parents to ensure consistency in K-12 communication about the policy. The Committee discussed the draft policy and provided feedback that will be shared by Mrs. Dillon at the Professional Development Day on June 23, 2016.

Mrs. Brody led the Committee discussion on the summer meeting schedule, including plans for the Strategic Objectives Workshop to be conducted by facilitators from the Massachusetts Governance Project, at least one regular meeting in July and a possible meeting shortly after the next Building Committee meeting scheduled for June 27, 2016. The Committee agreed to provide their availability to the Superintendent's office to aid in

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

Page 5

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 06/16/2016

scheduling for the summer months.

Decision Items

For the record, Mrs. Brody noted that the Executive Session originally scheduled for June 14, 2016 was cancelled.

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Brody requested Superintendent feedback on the District's safety and discipline policy based on the public comment heard earlier in the meeting.

Mrs. Brody noted that the Committee had deferred a review of the job descriptions and evaluation process for coaches and extracurricular activities advisors to be scheduled during a summer meeting.

Mrs. Brody requested a follow up discussion of the International Baccalaureate workshop held on June 9, 2016, potentially as part of the Strategic Objectives Workshop.

Mr. Alessandro asked about the timeline for the Superintendent review. Mrs. Brody responded that the Superintendent review is typically held in July and that dates will be confirmed pending consultation of availability schedules.

Announcements

The Committee will hold a workshop during the summer to discuss strategic objectives.

General Public Discussion and Information

Dr. Megan Douglas, of 25 Rumstick Road, parent, requested consideration for a monitoring system for the homework policy to ensure it is enforced across the District.

Dr. Cynthia Rosengard, of 374 Sowams Road, parent, stressed the importance of notifying the public who is on the School Start Time Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, and include the number of applicants, to remain transparent on the process.

Dr. Lisa Daft, of 5 Robbins Drive, parent, expressed frustration and concern for the process and final makeup of the School Start Time Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. Mr. Messore stressed that the selection process included a confidential blind scoring system using a rubric approved by the School Committee.

Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:40 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.